

THE GATEWAY

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DOING IT STANDING UP The Farrell Bros brought their standup bass, along with the rest of their instruments, to the Sidetrack Friday. The rockabilly band opened for local country stars The Swiftys, who were releasing their new CD.

MLAs to discuss education review

CHLOÉ FEDO
Deputy News Editor

After the initial announcement in June, the provincial government's review of postsecondary education is well underway, leaving students and faculty members until 2 November to let the government know where their concerns lie. To make sure their voices are heard, Public Interest Alberta (PIA) is leading an advocacy campaign starting at the U of A tomorrow, and heading to six other postsecondary institutions over the next couple of weeks, to make the discussion public.

"You can't have a public process—a complete review of the system—if the public is excluded from that."

**BILL MOORE-KILGANNON,
PIA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

The open forum will take place from 10am until noon in the Alumni Room in the Students' Union Building. Opposition MLAs Dave Taylor and Raj Panna, the Liberal and NDP advanced education critics, have confirmed their attendance, but Minister of Advanced Education Dave Hancock, who was invited, won't be present.

Cam Traynor, spokesperson for the minister, said that though Hancock cannot attend due to a trip to Mexico with representatives of various post-secondary institutions, he's still keen

on hearing the results of the forum.

"The whole postsecondary review is geared toward getting as much input and participation as possible. The Minister certainly welcomes any input that comes his way and would be interested in seeing the results of the forum," Traynor said.

Bill Moore-Kilgannon, executive director of PIA, stressed the importance of involving students in the review of postsecondary education, noting that the steering committee organized by the government to undertake the review process is comprised of three MLAs and 14 other Albertans, none of whom are students.

"You can't have a public process—a complete review of the system—if the public is excluded from that," Moore-Kilgannon said.

According to Moore-Kilgannon, there is a lack of information about the review, and it's important to recognize the significant issues in postsecondary education that need be brought to attention before the review is up. As part of their campaign, PIA has distributed 20 000 copies of post-secondary report cards throughout the province—also offering an online version—in the hopes of making students' voices heard.

"[PIA] felt that, given that most people don't even know that this review is going on, it was important to hand out some background information," he said. "We wanted to highlight the fact that there are some serious issues in postsecondary education that need to be addressed and the government needs to use this opportunity to really envision where we want to go."

PLEASE SEE FORUM • PAGE 4

Field hockey Pandas in first after streak-snapping weekend

JAKE TROUGHTON
Senior News Editor

The Eskimos weren't the only local team to end a BC team's long winning streak this weekend; if anything, they were outdone over at Foote Field—the Pandas field hockey squad did it twice.

On Saturday, they downed the two-time defending champion UBC Thunderbirds 1–0 to end their two-year, 21-game winning streak and break a five-year unbeaten run against UBC. That came a day after they opened the season with a 3–0 win over the Victoria Vikes, who they hadn't beaten in six years, and who hadn't lost to anyone but UBC since 2001. Their 1–0 win over the Calgary Dinos on Sunday put the Pandas in first place in the conference with a perfect

3–0–0 record after the season's first tournament—ahead of the two BC teams who've virtually monopolized the CIS title over the last 15 years.

"I've played at the provincial level before, and I've never beaten any BC team."

LISA JOLICEUR, PANDAS DEFENDER

Even for rookie Panda defender Lisa Joliceur, who scored the opening goal in her first game with the team, the significance of finally sweeping the BC squads was clear.

"I've played at the provincial level

before, and I've never beaten any BC team," she said. "So it feels really good to beat them."

The Pandas looked especially strong in the win over Victoria (0–2–1 after a 0–0 tie with Calgary and a 1–0 loss to UBC), dominating on offence and keeping the ball in the Vikes' end for most of the afternoon. Even though they'd expressed confidence going into the game, Pandas head coach Carla Somerville admitted she didn't expect such a solid victory.

"I was hoping," she said with a laugh. "I was pretty confident that we could beat them if we played well, but I thought it was going to have to be kind of a slugfest. But we scored early and built confidence throughout the game, so it was good."

PLEASE SEE PANDAS • PAGE 11



JACOB EDENOFF

ON THE BALL The Pandas beat Calgary 1–0 to finish the weekend unbeaten.

Inside

News	1–4
Opinion	5–8
Sports	10–13
A&E	14–17
Comics	18
Crossword	19
Classifieds	19



Playing with the boys

Like to strip down with the opposite sex? Well, Scott Lilwall doesn't either. Read on to find out why, you pervs.

OPINION, PAGE 7



Can't take a Ribbon

Studio Theatre's season opener proves to be a bland and boring affair. Read our review in A&E.

A&E, PAGE 14

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colophon

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New U of A president officially installed into office

TASNEEM KARBANI
News Staff

Growing up in northern Sri Lanka, Dr Indira Samarasekera never imagined that life's journey would take her to Edmonton, Alberta—a city where she is now officially the University president.

On 25 September, Dr Samarasekera was installed as the University of Alberta's twelfth President and Vice-Chancellor in the presence of an audience of nearly 2400 at the Jubilee Auditorium.

Samarasekera, the first female to be president as the first engineer to be president of the U of A, dawned the traditional green and gold robes of office and addressed the audience after being sworn in as president.

"I accept this life-changing privilege of becoming the twelfth president of this wonderful institution with a deep sense of responsibility. No event can surpass this day; no distinction will come close, no calling more exhilarating," she said.

Numerous relatives from across the world came to celebrate with Samarasekera, including her parents.

"I am overjoyed that my parents are here from Sri Lanka. It was your love and unconditional support that liber-

ated me from tradition and allowed me to make uncommon choices."

The audience laughed as Samarasekera remarked on people's perceptions of the University president's job.

"Some say that the president's job is to raise money so that the provost and the deans can spend it," she said. "Most would agree that it is more like being a proprietor of a cemetery: you have ever so many people under you, but is anybody listening?"

Samarasekera also addressed the visions she has for the U of A's future. She said that to be defined as a great university of the 21st century, one theme must dominate: elevating the human spirit through great achievements. She also acknowledged the ceremony's honorary degree recipients: Canadian musician Susan Aglukark, Dr John Evans, Nobel Prize recipient Dr John Polanyi, and Canadian playwright Sharon Pollock.

"You personify the spirit of greatness that we wish to inspire in others. I thank each of you for being here to symbolize true triumphs of the human spirit," Samarasekera said.

Samarasekera also said she's committed to contributing to the social sciences, humanities and fine arts at the U of A. She noted that while the sciences have seen a "dazzling" amount



ASSUMING THE THRONE New U of A President Dr Indira Samarasekera.

MIKE OTTO

of investment, the arts have not.

"Today, I announce a new fund to support the social sciences, humanities and fine arts here at the U of A. This investment will help provide knowledge to address many of the 21st century's most challenging social problems, while helping to strengthen our cultural heritage," she said. She then turned her attention to Minister of Advanced Education Dave Hancock, who was in attendance. "Well, Minister Hancock, no pressure; just a little gentle persuasion."

Later, Hancock said he agrees that the province should have such an endowment fund for the social sciences and humanities.

Lieutenant Governor Norman Kwong and Mayor Stephen Mandel were also on hand at the ceremony to extend their congratulations to the new president. Kwong described Samarasekera as a "dynamic and brilliant person," while Mandel seemed quite impressed by the new president.

"I hope I can still apply for grad school. I'm inspired," he said.

STREETERS

The provincial government has been conducting a review of postsecondary education since June, and the process will be done on 2 November.

What have you heard about the postsecondary education review, and what advice would you give the government about changes to postsecondary education?

Abbie Stein-MacLean
Science IVDan Dodd
Science IOrion U Kidder
Graduate StudiesShannon Higgins
Science IV

No, I don't know about it. The government has to increase awareness for everybody else to know that post-secondary's an important thing. And, increase funding in general.

No, I don't know anything about it; I'm unaware of the postsecondary education review. But I think that tuition is really expensive.

No, what's going on? That's kind of sad because I teach here [at the University]. First off, we have to stop actually subsidizing large corporations and their efforts to make more billions and billions of dollars, and actually take some of that government money that we seem to be rolling around in and put it towards education. This province is rolling in cash, and none of it reaches actual people.

I know absolutely nothing [about the review]. We need more money for post-secondary education; for tuition so we don't pay as much, and to subsidize books, I guess.

Compiled and photographed by Chloé Fedio and Matt Frehner

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MUSIC TRIVIA SATURDAY NIGHTS

KARAOKE TUESDAY NIGHTS

Students march to protest Iraq war

ALEXANDER DEACON
News Writer

Demonstrators took to the streets on Saturday to march in protest of the United States' continued war in Iraq, as well as Canada's military involvement in Afghanistan and Haiti.

The march was organized by the Edmonton Coalition Against War and Racism (ECAWAR), a coalition of various activist groups in the Edmonton area that was founded in 2002. The demonstrators convened at Corbett Hall on the University of Alberta campus and marched to Gazebo Park.

Saturday's protest was part of an international day of protest, explained Marilyn Gao, a member of the activist group the Raging Grannies, in a speech delivered to the approximately 50 or so protesters gathered at Corbett Hall.

"There are thousands of people protesting the illegal occupation of Iraq in places all over the world, like San Francisco, London, Madrid and, especially, Washington DC, today; I feel like I'm there in spirit," she said to the crowd.

While the main focus of the march was to protest the US-led occupation of Iraq, several other issues were represented in the Edmonton march, including Canadian military involvement in Haiti and Afghanistan. Gao explained that ECAWAR had to take several different views into account when planning for this event.

"ECAWAR got a request from the Canadian Peace Alliance, which is a large network of peace groups, to put something on," she said. "So we had meeting about three weeks ago, in which we had to accommodate several different issues from several groups."

Indeed, the wide range of groups that were represented contributed to an incident with the police as the march crossed the intersection of 82 Avenue and 110 Street. Three Edmonton Police Services (EPS) officers got into a verbal conflict with several demonstrators while trying to keep them off of the street. Several demonstrators obliged and continued marching to Gazebo Park. Another group began chanting "Take back the streets," which eventually led to one student being taken into custody, though he was later released without charges.

After a brief debate, the demonstrators continued to march down Whyte



NOT GOING QUIETLY A student is arrested during Saturday's protest.

Avenue to Gazebo Park, chanting slogans such as, "Troops out now, end the occupations!" and, "We want democracy; bring back Aristotle!"

General confusion was the rule as the demonstrators arrived at Gazebo Park, because they had nowhere to set up their sound system. Fortunately for them, a street performer kindly let the organizers borrow his microphone for speeches, announcements, and an open-mic session.

Overall, the organizers of the march are optimistic about what it accomplished. Greg Farrants, a member of a group called Canada-Haiti Action, remarked that the march was an effective method of generating attention, but that there is room for improvement.

"[The march] was good, but it can be better. And that's why I'm here, to hopefully encourage others to join in this anti-war rally; and really, it's a

peace rally [aimed at] ending occupations in Afghanistan, in Haiti, and in Iraq," he explained.

March organizer Kevan Hunter, a third-year education student and a member of ECAWAR, agreed, stating that despite some setbacks, the march was part of a larger peace movement that more and more people are supporting.

"I think it's just important that people come out and take a stand. There were some unforeseen events, obviously, and it's better when these things don't happen, and luckily things didn't turn out too bad. And, for the rest of it, you had that general spirit that was still there. The people here are united and it's building up a movement to resistance," he said. "Today there were demonstrations all over the world, and we wanted to be a part of that."

CAMPUS CRIME BEAT

Compiled by Amanda Ash

UNLAWFUL BEHAVIOUR

On Sunday, 25 September around 11:58pm, Campus 5-0 received a report that three dudes were gallivanting through the Law building, and possibly smoking narcotics. The hoologans were located at the south end of the building holding open the exterior door, and it was determined that they were not affiliated with the University. The trio was given summons for trespassing and sent packing.

ARE YOU MY MOTHER?

At around 5:45pm on Sunday, 25 September, Campus Security was notified that a woman was loitering near the northeast side of Corbett Hall. The 21-year-old was identified as having no University affiliation, but it was discovered that she had been discharged from the hospital earlier that day. The lost female was transported to 5-0 headquarters where arrangements were made to have her family pick her up.

SEXY PARTY PLANNERS

On Sunday, 25 September at around 2:34pm, a HUB tenant reported to Campus Security that two males, last seen near the Fine Arts building, had shoplifted a handful of condoms. The libidinous males were described as being between 15 and 17 years of age. Officers checked the area, and although one male was questioned near the LRT tracks, the two culprits were not located.

TAG-TEAMING

Between 9:30pm and 1am on Thursday, 22 September, Campus Security set up a check stop on 82 Avenue from 112 to 114 Street, affecting both east- and westbound traffic. The check stop was a group effort between ten EPS members and five Campus Security members. In total, the team stopped 570 vehicles, eight of which were issued 24-hour suspensions, with one charge of impaired driving. Provincial tags were also issued for liquor- and traffic-related offences.

COFFEE BREAK

Around 3:15am on 24 September, Campus 5-0 members spotted two males sleeping in a vehicle in the Tim Hortons' parking lot. After a brief conversation, it was determined that the driver, who was a University student, had been

drinking. Since the situation was outside their jurisdiction, the 5-0 contacted EPS, who subsequently arrested the intoxicated driver.

CAMERON LIBRARY SMOKE-OUT

On Friday, 25 September around 2:15pm, a group of mischievous individuals threw an unknown substance on the second floor of Cameron Library, causing smoke to be released into the room. The building was evacuated after an alarm was activated. When the Fire Department arrived, it was determined that a pop bottle containing dry ice had been placed in a garbage can. There were no injuries or damage, but the 5-0 is still investigating and requesting assistance in identifying the persons responsible.

HYPNOTIC PSYCHOTIC

At around 12:38am on Friday, 23 September, a suspicious male character with a history of trespassing was seen in the Heritage Medical Research building. The trespasser claimed he was under brain control, and was searching for the persons responsible for hypnotizing him and his girlfriend. The alleged brainwash victim was sporting a Harley Davidson t-shirt and wearing a large and noticeable gold ring. He left campus without incident.

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STUDENT RECEIVABLES

Financial Services, 3rd Floor Administration Building

U of A kicks off United Way campaign

NATALIE CLIMENHAGA
News Staff

In conjunction with Campus Recreation's 46th annual Turkey Trot, the University of Alberta kicked off its annual United Way Campaign this past Saturday. And while only the top race qualifiers took home a prize turkey, every participant made a positive impact in the community, as their entrance fees will go towards the United Way.

"Last year we raised \$501 000, [so] we've set our goal at \$500 000 this year, but we hope to exceed that," U of A United Way campaign coordinator Lorna Hallam explained.

The campaign, which runs until 21 November, will feature a number of fundraising events throughout campus to raise money for over 40 different member agencies, ranging from emergency shelters to adult literacy programs. Events will include a Parking Services Garage Sale on 15 October and a Silent Auction at HUB Mall on 16 November, among others.

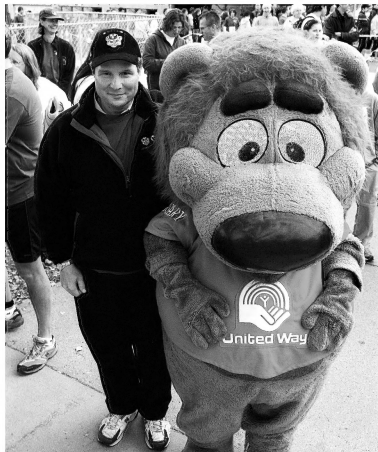
"It's a part of the [University's] vision for research, teaching and community service, [as] this is a large part of the community service [aspect]," Hallam explained.

Like many Turkey Trot participants, second-year Biological Sciences student and first-time Turkey Trot runner An Luong willingly gave up her Saturday morning to be a part of the United Way's campaign kickoff.

"I thought it would be a good experience to participate in a University-related physical activity, and I think it's a bonus that it's for a good cause," Luong said.

Associate Director of Campus Recreation Pierre Dickner, who organized the Turkey Trot, stressed the significance any amount of participation has on the campaign.

"It's important that everyone con-



BEAR COUNTRY U of A Provost Carl Amrhein and the United Way's mascot.

tribute," Dickner said. "One in three people actually benefit from one of the agencies that the United Way funds."

Third-year Business student and Turkey Trot runner Mandy MacRae, who worked this past summer with the Canadian Red Cross Society in Edmonton as the Summer Youth Coordinator, explained just some of the ways campaign funds help that one particular organization.

"With the Red Cross, [the United Way] helps programs like Respect Ed, which is for abuse prevention, disaster services, and the youth group program, which does volunteering throughout

the community in the summer and throughout the year," MacRae said.

However, Hallam explained how, despite the United Way's continual efforts, some of their member agencies remain overwhelmed by demand.

"For example, [The Strathcona Shelter Society for battered women] turns away more people than they are able to accept," Hallam said.

Hallam is optimistic, though, that by involving students, the U of A can insure the continual deliverance of the United Way mission.

"Students are the donors of the future," she said.

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APPLICATION DEADLINE: OCTOBER 21, 2005

SU, PIA want students involved in review

AUCTION • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The provincial government also made an effort to include students. It has a say in the review by opening an online survey on 16 September.

As many perspectives as possible should be contributed to the review, and having a panel on campus enables a diversity of ideas to come together, said Jeanette Buckingham, the president of Confederation of Alberta Faculty Associations.

"The way I see it, the more the merrier. The more discussion we can have about advanced education in the province, the better it is for all of us, faculty and students alike," she said. Moore-Kilgannon criticized the province's process so far for excluding the public, especially students, from the invite-only discussion forums. However, Traynor said that though

the forums have not been open to the general public, the government has made an effort to include students.

"We've invited organizations, and then the organizations have decided who to send. And that's included all the major student organizations; they've been invited to pretty much every meeting that's been held. The student groups have been very involved in all levels," he said.

But Moore-Kilgannon said that certain groups, such as teachers, need to be considered a stakeholder in the future of postsecondary education, and so far, the Alberta Teachers' Association, which represents 32 000 teachers in Alberta, has not been invited into the review process.

"Teachers are deeply concerned about whether or not the students that are graduating from high school feel

that they have the ability to go on into college or technical institutes or university. There's a direct link between a student's desire to do well in high school and whether or not they feel that they can actually afford or will ever be accepted into any of the programs of their choice," Moore-Kilgannon said.

Students' Union Vice-President (External) Sam Power said the SU helped PIA publicize the campaign to keep the dialogue open and, ultimately, inform students.

"It's an opportunity for students to hear the non-academic side of things, the faculty side of things, and then the government side of things," Power said. "It's also an opportunity for students to ask questions and learn about the processes and the issues behind postsecondary education."

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28TH

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SUSTAINABILITY

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QUAD

GreenPace Presents
Forest harvesting Policies
1:00 - 2:00 pm
Education Room 165

Pesticides and your
community garden
2:00 - 3:00 pm
Dewey's

The International Effort to
Protect Alberta's Forests
3:00 - 4:00 pm
Education Room 164

Sustainable Transit Forum
Featuring MLA David Eggen
3:30 - 5:00 pm
Dewey's

Dr. David Schneider
Water Issues in Alberta
Featuring Mahanadi Lake
5:30 - 7:00 pm
Education Room 129



OPINION

opinion@gateway.alberta.ca • Tuesday, 27 September, 2005

Brangelina hype disgraceful, media coverage worse

IF YOU'VE MANAGED to pick up the *Sun* or the *Journal* in recent weeks, you've no doubt seen that our fair city has been gripped by celebrity fever. We've been captivated by the phenomenon known as Brangelina, and dear God, we the masses ever captivated.

The real question here is whether anyone really does—or should—care about this. Sure, there is a bit of a giddy pleasure in seeing Brad Pitt stroll through the corridors of West Edmonton Mall, but for Christ's sake, it's him walking through West Edmonton Mall. I wasn't particularly astonished to see something like this on CNN—which indeed ran a story on Pitt's visit to Galaxyland—but that fact that this was such momentous news for Edmonton took me a bit by surprise.

It's understandable that we'd be a little star-struck to have two bona fide celebrities take up temporary residence in our city, but the fact that we have apparently thrown all reason out the window in exchange for blurry photos of Pitt walking by the Mindbeander should be cause for concern.

Perhaps we should have seen this coming as soon as Pitt's impending presence in Alberta was announced. The *Journal* has been using massive front page photos and headlines bordering on the inappropriate for some time, and the *Sun*—well, it's always been the *Sun*. In retrospect, it seems obvious that our papers would turn—if only temporarily—into part-time gossip rags, but did they have to turn into completely piss-poor gossip rags?

The *Journal's* cover story—yes, cover story—on Brad's trip to WEM was essentially 500 words of celebrity fluffery, which can be summarized as: "Brad and Angelina went to the mall, and gosh, people were sure excited." The *Sun's* media handjob to the couple was a fantastic shot of the two leaving the Spruce Grove Safeway, with the subtitle, "Celebs go grocery shopping—guess what he suggested for dinner..." with provocative ellipses at the end to hint that Pitt might have actually been suggesting some sweet lovin'.

The height of this ridiculous spectacle—as terrible as these stories are, and as dull as we might be for being totally captivated by these events—is that the *Journal* and the *Sun*, for all of their valiant attempts at awesome celebrity reporting, have so far done a totally shitty job of covering these already shitty stories. The photos on each of these aforementioned articles were snapped by non-Edmonton news outlets, and as for the dinner story, it's all a giant tease—they don't even tell you what they were having. The closest they get is a deli clerk admitting that the couple considered getting roast chicken, but ultimately decided against it. The bare minimum that I have come to expect of celebrity coverage is a telephoto shot of either the roast chicken or the sweet lovin'.

Unfortunately, thanks to the crappy coverage of these already retarded stories, I'm not even privy to those details.

MIKE LAIROUCHE
Entertainment Editor

CBC must end lockout

THE WONDERFUL THING ABOUT the CBC is its ability to tie the nation together, providing news from the big city of Toronto, to the far-off community in Resolute. But for the past 44 days, CBC workers have been locked out, preventing many Canadians from accessing daily information about their country, and more importantly, their own communities.

For major urban centres, the loss has been less evident; there are many other news sources readily available and at the disposal of the public. But for isolated rural communities, the CBC is the only external link, the chief source of outside communication. The province of Newfoundland and Labrador held province-wide municipal elections today, and much of the rural population, lacking their regular news source, has been left uninformed about the candidates. It's time for the CBC to start co-operating with their workers and return to the air, because news is important, and being selfish money-hoarding jerks is not.

CHLOE FIDDO
Deputy News Editor

LETTERS

Hunting isn't the problem—we all hurt animals

I'm writing this letter in response to Natasha Dang's article, "British ban on fox hunt hypocritical," (13 September). I can honestly say that few things I have read in the past few years have offended or disappointed me more. As a hunter, bow-hunter and conservationist, I would like to point out that the British government is not the only one guilty of hypocrisy.

Everyone in today's society, whether they like it or not, has an adverse effect on animals. We have been on the top of the food chain for millions of years now, and still are. Some people don't want to be on top of the food chain. Sorry, it can't be changed.

To me, the problem stems from the fact that society is becoming more and more urbanized. People are too far removed from the natural occurrences of life and death that happen in nature every day. Eagles eat fish, wolves eat moose, cougars eat deer and people eat meat. All of this is perfectly natural. Manufacturing tofu savdust and flavouring it to taste like chicken, however, is not natural.

It is also not natural to clear forested areas for human use. In doing so, we displace countless birds, squirrels, deer, bears and a multitude of other creatures—many of which do not survive. This land is then used for our homes, universities, crops (the same ones that many vegetarians eat, I might add) and the trees are then turned into many of our convenient products, including paper.

Now, I'm not trying to blame the forestry industry or vegetarians for that matter. I'm merely pointing out that most people are ignorant of how their actions affect nature. I, however, am willing to take responsibility for my actions and admit my influence.

I do agree with Natasha on one point. I think that animals need to be treated with greater respect.

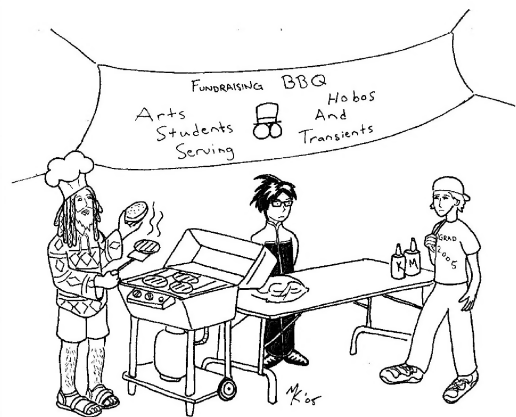
I take these issues very seriously. I can understand and respect that some people may disagree with me. I cannot understand those ignorant enough to form biased opinions filled with self-inquiries and blatant lies without first trying to understand my side of the issue.

DAVID WATSON
Engineering IV

Gaumont should take an attitude lesson from Pitt and Joie

(Re: "Celebrities alluring, but nothing more than ordinary people," 8 September). I was driving around the west end when I heard on the radio that Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie were at the West Edmonton Mall. I thought it'd be neat to catch a glimpse, only because Angelina is the girl of all my wet dreams. I love her movies, they're the biggest stars lately... so why not stop by?

I got there as they were leaving. I was in a car with some excited people who began to yell at me to follow them. Naturally I did, because



I thought the girl beside me was really going to beat me. I was skeptical, but I followed for a few blocks. They stopped at Taco Bell.

My passenger got out and went to talk to Angelina. I saw her smile, so I walked up too thinking it'd be okay. And Angelina was even more friendly than your average shoe-store clerk. Just sayin'. She was smiling warmly. She told my friend that she liked her shirt. She signed two autographs. And as we were leaving, Brad Pitt said, "Bye," and waved with a look on his face that said, "They're not interested in me."

You're right, they're just human. After eating Taco Bell... you bet, greasy shits and whatnot. They didn't blow me away. I didn't cry, faint, or even stumble on words. They were very easy to talk to and joke with. Adam Gaumont doesn't seem like he would be.

KARLYN MACKENZIE
Edmonton, Alberta

Intelligent design the unifying, scientific principle biology needs

These are such flamboyant falsehoods that it's hard to respond to Tim Peppin's article, "Intelligent design has no place in science classrooms," (22 September). This man is not to be taken seriously, or every knowledgeable reader should be insulted.

His statements tell us that dogmatic Darwinism places biology in a class by itself among sciences. Information content is fast becoming a key to understanding that has found application in most technical areas since the dawning of the computer age. Compared to Darwinism, which has gone nowhere for 150 years, ID would make an excellent central organizing principle for learning about living things.

We know complex systems do not just fall together as the result of some happy chain of accidents. For example, the design molecule in our cells, DNA, is a storage medium for information in language form. It is software, if you like, that builds, operates and maintains one of us from conception to old age. DNA is always the product of a conscious mind. To date there are no exceptions to that rule.

A better explanation may come some day, but for now, both sides agree there is the undeniable appearance of design. Darwin's disciples say it's a mirage. Adherents to ID say science is about what we see, not mere say-so without evidence or a plausible mechanism. Evolutionists should get in line with what the rest of the world calls real science.

Scientific questions demanding consistent answers have nothing to do with religion. It's narrow thinking to cut down the possible explanations without cause. Their reason for ruling out apparent design being the result of actual design is their religious presupposition that God didn't do it. They are the ones dragging religion into the classroom.

QUENTIN L. F. PATCH
Columbus, Ohio

More ideas should be presented, but ID is Christianity in disguise

I believe that the idea of teaching intelligent design is an intelligently designed idea (Re: "Intelligent design has no place in science classrooms," 22 September). And if you follow that idea to the sources who champion it, what you'll find is a predominantly Judeo-Christian support base.

If I thought for one minute that the motivation behind those who support teaching intelligent design theory was all encompassing—that different theories of different faiths were taught side by side with equal stature and veracity—I'd be more inclined to support the notion.

Unfortunately, support for teaching ID has a very transparent source. It's obvious that this is an attempt by "one" faith (Christianity and/or Judaism) to sneak their "correct" philosophies past the constitution, and that other philosophies would be treated more like hoaxes in comparison. In light of this, I'd no more support this form of education than I would mandatory Islamic teachings in Pakistani schools. Such education fosters single-mindedness, not open-mindedness.

Of course, if anyone disagrees with me, they're welcome to do so.

But, I'd challenge those people to name names of persons in "leadership" positions within the ID movement who are not Judeo-Christians.

J. ALICE WEST
Portland, Oregon

Williams has no right to judge others

Clearly Ryan Williams is a God among men (Re: "For the love of God, take some pride in your appearance," 20 September). This must be why he thinks he can criticize the appearance and habits of the people around him. As a smoker, I am aware that I can offend people with my habit. This is why I take care to wash my hands and chew gum before going to class after a cigarette. Unfortunately, "chain smoking girl" didn't extend that courtesy. Her lack of consideration and the fact that she smokes doesn't make her stupid, though. It's just a bad decision that some people make.

Of course, Mr Williams can't be expected to understand human faults, as he is perfect. Maybe "body odour guy" was just working out. Or maybe he sweats a lot—either way, we can only hope your article provided he and others with enough shame to change their ways. As for not hating these people because of their smell: they were in SUB, not at an interview, so settle down. Your job opportunities at Nickicorp are now limited. Our healthcare plan won't cover having your head removed from your ass. Sorry.

NICKI THOMAS
Art III

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building, or e-mailed to opinion@gateway.alberta.ca.

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libelous, or otherwise hateful in nature.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the name, student identification number, program, and year of study of the author, to be considered for publication.



GRIPPING WOOD IN THE LOCKER ROOM New coed change rooms make for a lot of awkwardness.

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: MATT FRIEDMAN

Coed nakedness makes changing awkward

SCOTT
LILWALL



For many of us, team sports were a large part of our childhood and adolescent years. An integral part of most sports competitions is the retirement to the change room when the game has concluded. There is a special feeling created when someone succeeds in creating a super-powered slingshot out of the offensive guard's underwear (which is separate from the special, sickening feeling one gets after fully realizing that the aforementioned garment was recently worn by a sweaty, 350-pound man). The locker room is permeated with camaraderie, unique atmosphere and odours.

It's because of that unusual kinship that I have mixed feelings on Jane Emlyn's success in her battle against the change room policy of British Columbia's Amateur Hockey Association. Emlyn recently won a change in the policy after filing a human rights complaint because her 14-year-old daughter was forced to

change apart from the males on her team. After the changes, these change rooms are coed, and a certain amount of clothing is required.

I can agree with a few of the points Emlyn presents. Yes, the female members of any sports team should have adequate facilities, and not to be forced to change in referee's offices or boiler rooms, as sometimes happens. Fair is fair, girls on the team shouldn't have to put up with something that is sub-par.

However, Emlyn's insistence on coed changing rooms is not the right path to take. The fellowship that can arise in the locker room is quite important to a team, and forcing guys and gals to strip down to the skivvies together is unlikely to help.

Some coed teams I played on when I was a teenager had changing spaces where everyone changed together, girls and boys in the same room. What did it accomplish? High levels of discomfort. The tension in the change room was thick enough to be snapped with a towel. Changing became a robotic affair, with guys and girls picking separate corners to change, and then rushing home as fast as possible. Some people, especially those in the early stages of adolescence, are still uncomfortable with the idea of the differences between the sexes.

Being forced to change with them, even with something as tame as the "boxers/t-shirt and shorts" rule that has been picked up by the hockey association, can be quite disconcerting and embarrassing. It won't do anything to bring the players closer together; indeed, it might backfire, resulting in a greater divide between players of opposite genders.

I'm not against coed change rooms as a rule. They are workable when the participants are mature adults and the guys don't start giggling and pointing at the sight of a bra strap (I'm generalizing here. Maybe some of you still do).

We must keep in mind, however, that 14-year-olds are not renowned for their emotional maturity—especially when it comes to the opposite sex.

Emlyn's heart is in the right place, trying to make sure that girls get just as much out of playing sports as boys do. She is, however, going about it the wrong way. There are other, better ways to get the team to bond—some of them based around more pizza and less clothing removal. Kids aren't adults—I would think this is pretty obvious—and they shouldn't be pushed into something they simply aren't ready for, because it won't work out for either "team."

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So long, Earth—I'm moving on to better things

SCOTT C
BOURGEOIS



Dear planet Earth, I want to live on the moon. I want to leave here, and never return. I want to soar into the heavens and plant my flag on another world, to build a new life for me and my followers on a true new frontier.

Don't get me wrong, I have no delusions of meeting space aliens or robots; I don't expect to fly a car like the Jetsons, and I damn well don't want to wear a silver outfit with rings on it. I just don't want to be on you anymore. I mean, take a look at yourself—you're a shithole planet.

Granted, you're our shithole planet. We made you this way, and we have to live with the consequences. Actually, no, I take that last statement back: short-sighted industrialists made you a shithole, and they have to live with

you. I want to live anywhere else, and frankly the moon is the shortest flight.

I remember the golden age of spaceflight—surprisingly well, in fact, for someone who wasn't born then. I remember Kennedy talking about men on the moon; I remember the space race of America vs Russia—and I sincerely wish the Russians had won. Because America totally dropped the ball.

It was almost 50 years ago when we first landed men on the moon. What have we done since then? Not a hell of a lot. Mostly, the United States has let their shuttles crumble and their space program atrophy. The exciting dream of interplanetary exploration has become a discarded memory, like your desire to be a ballerina, a fireman, or a ballerina/fireman hybrid.

If Russia had won, who knows what wonders they might have brought? Sure, we'd all be communists right now, but would that be so bad? I mean, we'd be space communists and that's mighty awesome if you ask me, because anything with the word

"space" in front of it is wicked cool.

But, seriously, if we had Cosmonauts running the show when it came to space, they might have at least done more than the Americans. America came off looking like that jerk who beats you at a contest you really want to win, then throws out the prize because they really didn't care about it in the first place.

And yet, there's hope. NASA has just put together a new program aimed at returning to the moon, which might pave the way for colonization and a trip to Mars. That's pretty exciting! At least it is for me, because my dream of living on the moon might become a reality in my lifetime.

So goodbye planet Earth; you've been a wonderful cradle during my youth, but other people have messed you up, and I want no part of it. However, as I live in my space house, with my space dog and my space friends, I'll sometimes glance back down at your waste-coated surface and smile.

And I'll be far, far away when the USA starts preemptively naking

Canadian law must address spyware

PATRICK
ROSS

people. The threat of identity theft through spyware is very real.

Other spyware programs track the online habits of computer users without their permission. Some are even designed to disable computer security programs in order to allow the unauthorized installation of still more spyware programs.

Many of these programs possess viral properties—they're hidden from typical detection methods, cause harm and are often self-replicating. And just as with computer viruses, they're meant to violate the sanctity of people's computers. These programs—developed for purposes ranging from commercial to criminal—can literally turn people's computers against them.

Given all of this, it's surprising that Canadian law is so ambiguous on the topic. Then again, considering that cyberspace and the Internet continue to be something of a modern Wild West, often defying the authority of civil law by way of evasion and questions regarding jurisdiction, it may not be so surprising. But there is one thing that is fairly certain: the advent of adware and spyware represents a challenge to which Canadian law needs to respond. As daily life becomes increasingly reliant on computers, citizens' right to maintain control over their computers must be protected.

This goes beyond the need to merely protect Canadians from identity theft and consumer fraud, although these are urgent matters. This is a matter of defending Canadian citizens' right to use their computers as they see fit, not as some douchecab running an online casino or dating service thinks they should. Spyware and adware programs are causing real individual and economic harm. It's time for the sheriff to take them in.

Living at home over the summer brings with it a number of responsibilities. While most of these responsibilities are relatively simple and require little effort—mowing the lawn, hauling garbage—some can be rather frustrating. I learned this during the past summer while trying to fix my parents' computer. I also learned something about cyberspace: it's a jungle out there.

Imagine my surprise when a scan revealed 84 bloody spyware programs on the computer. For those unfamiliar with this new reality of internet use, adware and spyware programs do a number of things. For example, one of the programs I discovered hijacks Windows Media Player and plays advertisements for DVDs. Another, ironically, attempts to sell a program to remove spyware. Some unscrupulous individuals have taken it upon themselves to create spyware programs for the express purpose of selling the removal programs, in effect creating the disease in order to sell the cure.

Most people have heard horror stories regarding this spyware pandemic. Some of these programs are designed with the insidious purpose of stealing people's personal information and identities. This could be considered nothing more than hysteria or urban legend until one remembers the recent arrest of an Edmonton woman who had managed to steal the identities—including such things as credit card numbers—of an astounding 3300

University president's focus on undergrad programs a welcome change

MICHAEL
ZAHORODNY-
BURKE

Let's agree—we all like research excellence. I mean, if guys and gals in lab-coats who poke monkeys and make new Spacely sprockets are doing an excellent job, that's great. Even if our own career path doesn't include the ambition to dawn the heavily pocketed white jumpsuit so that we can join Watson and Crick in microscope nerdery—well, that doesn't mean that we don't respect the innovations that such nerds provide us.

However, there was something about former University president Rod Fraser's focus on research excellence that never really sat well with me. For the last few years, as an Arts undergrad, I didn't understand how a focus on research excellence would be relevant to me, or any other undergrad student for that matter. That's not to say that the focus of the former president necessarily excluded undergrads, it was just that many of the good teaching professors that I knew seemed to be leaving for greener pastures while multi-million dollar research facilities were being erected across campus.

When I heard that there was going to be a new president this year, I paused for a moment in the coffee shop, pulled my beret down a little tighter, closed my copy of *The Prophet*, (yes, the stereotypes about arts students are

all true) and hoped, nay prayed, that the first thing I heard from the new president would not be about more funding so that the U of A would be the first one to figure out how they get the nanotechs into the nanotech bar.

So I read what Dr Indira Samarasekera had to say with a large measure of fear and trepidation. When it sank in, I stopped. She'd like to improve the undergrad experience. At first I wonder what the heck that means. Then I'm grateful she didn't announce that undergrad classes will now consist of students giving the University money and then showing up for a test sometime in December.

The U of A could really use more community, or at least more participation within the existing community. I mean, when I think of the people I know on campus, I realize that a lot of the undergrads that I know take the

heads-down, rear-up approach to the U of A. They come to class, show up to the test, do the best they can and promptly leave the U of A in order to have a life elsewhere. They don't really participate in anything like a classic university lifestyle. Either they don't know about interesting things to do on campus, or they feel that there is nothing compelling enough in which to become involved. While I do know a few people who have had good experiences in campus involvement, the vast majority of undergrads I know haven't had a lot of interest in campus life.

I think that the president taking the initiative to support the undergrad experience is a fine idea. While I fast on my Kraft Dinner and ketchup at home, I realize that it may not make the undergrad experience a paradise, but it would sure help to build some much-needed community feeling.

THE BURLAP
SACK

Well friends, after the better part of a decade, our galvanizing and globe-trotting Governor General, Adrienne Clarkson, is riding into the sunset. After having spent hundreds of thousands of dollars of our money seeing the world, the federal government has seen fit to set aside \$10 million for an institute named after Clarkson. While the institute has the noble goal of educating new citizens about the rights and responsibilities related to citizenship, it's a bad idea to name

it after the freest spender in Rideau Hall's history. As ingrained as patronage and throwing money down the drain are in the Canadian political culture, it's unwise to encourage new citizens to adopt these vices.

For this egregious waste of taxpayer money and the immortalization of the loosest spender in government, into the sack with you, Clarkson and federal government, for one last beating before you cash our last cheque.

ROSS PRUSAKOWSKI

The Burlap Sack is a semi-regular feature where a person or group who needs to be put in a sack and beaten is ridiculed in print.

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SPORTS

sports@gateway.ualberta.ca • Tuesday, 27 September, 2005

Hockey Pandas bounce back to tie Calgary Oval X-Treme

Team plays to the level of Calgary professional women's squad; forward Tarin Podloski nets goal and assist in an impressive effort



CHRIS O'LEARY
Sports Editor

The Pandas hockey team recovered from a Friday night shutout loss with an inspired effort on Saturday that almost saw them walk out of Clare Drake Arena with a win against the Calgary Oval X-Treme.

In a game that was more competitive than what the score would suggest, Alberta was blanked 4-0 in Friday night's game. Saturday's rematch saw the Pandas control the tempo of the majority of the game, as they jumped out to a quick 2-0 lead. They stayed in control through most of the game, but Calgary crept back in with a goal in the game's second period and another late in the third. With no overtime session in the game, it ended as a 2-2 draw.

Pandas coach Howie Draper was pleased with the team's overall performance, and could sense a hunger in the Pandas to have a better result than what they got on Friday.

"I know that our players were chomping at the bit to avenge Friday's loss. We had a lot of tough goals go in on us, and I know that they really wanted to compete," he said.

A big part of the Pandas success came from third-year goaltender Danielle Bless. The Grant MacEwan product was tested a number of times and did exceedingly well against the X-Treme, making 25 stops on the night.

"[Bless] was very solid," Draper said of his new goaltender. "She was right on from the first shot. Her positioning was outstanding, and I was very happy with her performance."

At the other end of the ice, second-year forward Tarin Podloski was an offensive sparkplug for the Pandas, as she assisted on the team's first goal, then scored one of her own moments later in the first period.

"We definitely wanted the win," she said. "After the first game, where the score was 4-0, we knew we could play with [Calgary], and even

beat them. I thought overall that we outplayed them a bit. I took some selfish penalties, but I think I made up for it [with two points in the game]."

"We really need her to be the outstanding player that she can be on a regular basis. Once she gets that consistency where it's every single time she steps on the ice, something good is going to happen, then we'll know where we're going."

PANDAS HEAD COACH
HOWIE DRAPER ON TARIN PODLOSKI

While Podloski was instant offence early, Draper is hoping his young star can improve her consistency this season and bring the same type of productivity throughout the game.

"We really need her to be the outstanding player that she can be on a regular basis. Once she gets that consistency where it's every single time she steps on the ice, something good is going to happen, then we'll know where we're going," Draper said.

Calgary head coach Tomas Pacina credited the Pandas, saying that Saturday's game was a more accurate portrayal of the competition between the two teams.

"They played very well," he said of the Pandas' effort. "I think that our goaltending was exceptional [on Friday], and we didn't deserve to win 4-0."

The Pandas face Red Deer College for a scrimmage on Wednesday, then head into Calgary on the weekend to play at Mount Royal College.

DEALING WITH ADVERSITY The Pandas avenged a lopsided Friday loss with a tie on Saturday.

FILE PHOTO/LEANNE FONG

Suspended McGill football players accused of humiliation, abuse

University launches investigation into allegations of hazing-related sodomy, recommends tighter restrictions on initiations

JOSH GINSBERG AND ERIKA MEEBEE
McGill Daily

(Montreal)—Almost a month after six McGill University football players were suspended for hazing-related issues, a former rookie is claiming he was sexually assaulted by members of the University's Redmen football team.

In an e-mail message obtained by the McGill Daily, the student detailed scenes of abuse that drove him to withdraw from McGill. The former rookie, who for purposes of anonymity will be referred to as Nathan, declined a telephone interview.

The alleged incident began on 27 August, during "rookie initiation night" for the football team and ended in a dark squash court in an athletics complex where most of the abuse was alleged to have taken place.

According to Nathan, team members taught the rookies with a broomstick, which they held aloft as they chanted, "Broom, broom, broom."

"All the rookies were gathered outside. ... They told us to take off our shirts and partner up and hold hands. They told us to skip and sing while we traveled to the stadium. They were calling us 'panies, queers, and fairies,'" reads the e-mail.

"The rookies were then told to stand in front of the team and cover their faces."

"The veterans in the stands threw pilates balls at us. One of the balls clipped my tooth. I said, 'I chipped my tooth.'" Nathan wrote that he was then told by a member of the football team that he should get used to it.

According to a press release from the

University, one of the implicated players has been suspended from the team indefinitely, and five others received a one-game suspension.

Director of Athletics Derek Drummond, who started in that position only three weeks ago, spent much of the evening of 13 September meeting with the team as a group and with members individually to help them manage the fallout from the allegations.

"If I can describe the mood on the team right now in one word, it would be that they're extremely frustrated," he said.

Drummond said that although he was shocked by the severity of the abuse, the department is aware that initiation activities do happen on many of the teams.

Asked where the department draws the line on the harshness of initiation, Drummond said that they have a zero-tolerance policy for anything that degrades someone else.

"We also insist that we know what is going to happen and that there be a coach present," he said.

According to Nathan's statement, there was no coach present when the harassment escalated.

"We were told to take our pants off. I replied no," he wrote.

He said a linebacker then took him to the back of the squash court and held a penny against the wall. "[He told me to] hold it with my nose. ... I felt pilates balls hit the wall on either side of me."

Nathan said he acquiesced to the demand to drop his pants, and was then placed in a kneeling position by an unidentified team member.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CANADIAN UNIVERSITY PRESS

BOYS WILL BE SADISTS Some McGill football players have been accused of taking hazing too far.

According to Nathan, a team member shoved a rope chew toy in his mouth and told him to bite it.

"Then they poked each cheek of my buttocks as the audience counted down and then poked the stick between my cheeks and hit my anus," continued Nathan.

"I got up, spat on the floor, threw the chew toy at the crowd, and left."

Ben Lowry, who was on the varsity football team three years ago, said his initiation consisted of making up skits and jokes that mocked veteran players. If the players determined that a joke was

not funny, the player who made it up would be hit gently, according to Lowry, on his buttocks with a racket.

"There was nothing really degrading about it," he said.

According to Emily Kagan, a first-year lacrosse player, initiations on women's teams tend to be tamer.

Kagan said her team was shocked by Nathan's allegations.

"I think it's completely ridiculous. It has to be completely embarrassing for everyone involved."



BACK IN ACTION Christine Shewchuk has a revamped game and new teammates to play with.

Shewchuk, Pandas ready for more Ws

CHRIS O'LEARY
Sports Editor

Last season, the Pandas basketball team was a few pieces short of completing the puzzle that would have gotten them back into the elite of CIS. The upstart squad that bolstered seven first-year players obviously lacked experience, not to mention some size up front and a consistent scorer. Those problems have been answered with the return of the most important piece of the Pandas puzzle: former national team player Christine Shewchuk.

The '61" forward has returned to the hardwood after a bevy of injuries kept her out of action for the previous two seasons, and is optimistic about the impact she can have on the young Pandas squad that missed last season's playoffs by just one game.

"I think so much of these girls, and that's the big reason why I wanted to come back," Shewchuk says. "I wouldn't have come back if I didn't feel like they had so much potential. I want to bring it out in them so badly. I totally believe in them."

Pandas head coach Trix Baker is enthused to have Shewchuk back on her roster. She points to Shewchuk's experience and maturity as the most valuable assets to the team, saying that the leadership has already brought has been invaluable.

"She garnishes instant respect," the 15-year coaching vet says. "There's only so much I can tell these girls.

She's talking to the players all the time, and it's made a big difference for us. It's great having her around."

While having Shewchuk around has its undeniable positives, keeping her around has proven to be the challenge. To say she's been hampered by the injury bug would be an understatement, but Shewchuk says that she's now training within her limitations, something that she wouldn't let herself do in the past.

"She garnishes instant respect. There's only so much I can tell these girls. She's talking to the players all the time and it's made a big difference for us. It's great having her around."

PANDAS COACH
TRIX BAKER
ON CHRISTINE SHEWCHUK

"I'm not going to waste my time coming back after two years of being out of basketball and getting on with my life to come back and over-train," she says. "I know my body well enough now that I know if I do those things, I won't be able to play. I'd love to be in

the gym for three hours a day, and that's the hardest thing for me, not being able to do the things I could do before."

Baker admits that, although Shewchuk will never be fully healthy as a basketball player again, she's as healthy as she can be right now. While her injury has taken her ability to make lateral movements with her foot, Shewchuk is working hard at making the necessary adjustments to her game.

"Mentally, I'm still the same player. [Physically], I can't do a lot of the things I could do before. The strengths of my game involved a lot of cutting and quick movement, and that's a lot of the stuff I'm having the hardest time with. If I don't come back, then I'm going to have to change my game a little bit more and maybe play a little more inside, and rely on my outside shot," she says.

"I think it's still tough for her to [work within her limitations]," Baker adds. "Mentally she's there. Physically, she's not going to be able to do the drills that we do, but I know she's going to be in the shape she needs to be in to play. That's just the way [she is]; she won't accept anything less."

While Shewchuk works herself back into the lineup, she's excited about what's in store for her and her new teammates.

"I remember when I first watched [the current Pandas] play, every single one of these girls are so athletic. I haven't seen that at U of A for a long time."

Field hockey Pandas the team to beat

PANDAS • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Fifth year Pandas' defender Diana Hughes said after Friday's win that it was a relief to finally beat Victoria as a senior player.

"We were stinky. We weren't very good. I think it's going to be a challenge for us to play from ahead and be the number one team and have the expectation to come out and win games. I'm glad we turned it around in the second half, but that's something we're going to have to work on."

CARLA SOMERVILLE
PANDAS FIELD HOCKEY COACH
ON HER TEAM'S PLAY IN THE FIRST HALF
AGAINST CALGARY

"It feels good to finally pick up that goal; it's been a goal for us since I've been here," she said. "[Friday] morning, a lot of us older players were really nervous, because traditionally we haven't beaten Victoria, but everything came together

once the game started."

On Sunday, it initially looked like the Pandas were in danger of giving away the momentum they'd gained, as they struggled to create offensively in the first half against the Dinos (0-2-1, including a 2-0 loss to UBC on Friday). Their attack was much stronger when they came out for the second half, as they eventually were able to get the game-winning goal from second-year forward Bunny Hughes (Diana's sister) in the 46th minute, but the slow start concerned Somerville.

"We were stinky," the third-year coach said of the Pandas' lacklustre first-half performance. "We weren't very good. I think it's going to be a challenge for us to play from ahead and be the number one team and have the expectation to come out and win games. I'm glad we turned it around in the second half, but that's something we're going to have to work on."

The Pandas will only have a few days to work on how they're going to handle playing as the newly appointed team to beat in Canada West before they're back on the pitch in competition. Their next trip will be to Calgary for the second of three regular season Canada West tournaments, which gets underway on Friday. If the Pandas can hold on to their first place ranking through the season, they would earn the right to host the Canada West championship, from 21-23 October. The CIS championship of field hockey is scheduled to be played from 3-6 November in Vancouver.

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The University of Alberta Alumni Association is pleased to honour the recipients of the 2005 Alumni Recognition Awards. The awards will be presented at a gala ceremony on Thursday, September 29 at the Myer Horowitz Theatre. For tickets call 492-3224 by Thursday noon.

Distinguished Alumni Award recognizes alumni whose truly outstanding achievements have earned them national or international prominence:



John Acorn, '80 BSc, '88 MSc

Affectionately known around the world as the Nature Nut, John Acorn has shared his love for Alberta's entomology and natural history with the world.



Stuart G. Davis, '39 BSc(Eng), '40 MSc

Stuart Davis is recognized as a true philanthropist who generously supported the arts, his community, and the University, where he taught for four decades.



Louis A. Desrochers, '52 LLB, '78 LLB (Hon)

An outstanding supporter of French language and culture, Louis Desrochers has been a key figure in Alberta's francophone community.



Harold (Hal) Kwisle, '75 BSc(Eng)

Harold Kwisle, with his strong, unwavering commitment to business excellence, is one of Canada's most successful CEOs.

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James Jacsó, '79 BA, '82 LLB
Glenette Lemire Rodger, '65 PhD
Bing Fook Lim, '93 MSc(Eng)
Dane Marbo, '88 BSc(Eng)
M. Anne Nash, '74 BSc
'85 MSc, '88 PhD
Scott Pfeiffer, '90 BSc, '94 MSc
Marcel Rucanu, '84 BSc
George Webber, '73 BA

Alumni Honors Awards recognize the outstanding achievements of alumni early in their careers:

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Joseph L.A. Geric, '84 BSc(Eng)
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Christine Nordhagen, '84 BSc
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'88 PhD

Alumni Honour Awards recognize the significant contributions made over a number of years by alumni in their local communities and beyond:

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Michael Boorman, '69 BSc
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Lorna Gauder, '80 BA
Brenda Hubbard, '84 BSc(Nu)

Yusuf A. Karbami, '72 MBA
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Jeffrey C. Lucas, '78 MSc
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Joan E. Mucha, '65 BSc, '79 MEd

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UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA



PHOTO CREDIT

GOAT WHAT IT TAKES Blake Grenier has brought his vast WHL experience to the Golden Bears hockey program.

Grenier hopes to be Bears top goaltender

Former WHLer one of three new netminders on Golden Bears' roster

ROSS PRUSAKOWSKI
Sports Staff

After years where the battle for the top job between the pipes was limited to CIS veterans, three newcomers are vying for the position of the Golden Bears number one goaltender.

Gone are goalies Dustin Schwartz, a former all-Canadian, and BJ Boxma, who was tending goal in the CIS final last year. And while the battle for top billing in the crease will be between a trio of talented net minders, it shouldn't be surprising if Blake Grenier and his extensive Western Hockey League experience get him the job over teammates Aaron Sorochan and David Rathjen when the team kicks off the season.

"[Grenier, Sorochan and Rathjen] are inexperienced at the CIS level, but all three are very good goaltenders, and Sorochan and Grenier bring very strong numbers from the Western Hockey League," says Bears head coach Eric Thurston. "Experience is one thing, but the quality that we have from the three is excellent."

Still, while all three goalies are talented, neither of the other two have shown the same doggedness as Grenier, who bounced back from a severe high-ankle sprain in the middle of last season that caused him to miss 27 games. In the end, he recaptured his job with the Portland Winter Hawks, posted franchise-best stats, and led the team to a playoff spot.

Even though Grenier ended up finishing his WHL career without a championship or Memorial Cup appearance, he's still happy for the opportunity it provided for him to grow and develop his game.

"The best thing I can probably take out of my WHL experience is that I learned a better mental game...as you get older and play more, you get more experienced and that just comes along with it."

BLAKE GRENIER
GOLDEN BEARS GOALIE

"It was in the back of my mind, and every year that you play, you want to go to the Memorial Cup and have a chance to be in the finals, but I'm just happy that I had the opportunity to play hard throughout those four years in the WHL," Grenier says. "The best thing I can probably take out of my WHL experience is that I learned a better mental game...as you get older and play more, you get more experienced, and that just comes along with it."

With 17 playoff games and 127 regular season games spread out over

four different seasons and teams, the 21-year-old Grenier still has had plenty of opportunities to round out his game and develop into a solid starter. It was this quality that had CIS teams knocking down his door after he wrapped up his career in the WHL—though he had no doubt about what school was his first choice.

"I made my decision right from the get-go. If the University of Alberta was going to recruit me, then that was where I was going to play," he says. "I was recruited by probably almost every other CIS school—except for a couple, like McGill and the other top-end academic schools—but [the Bears] had an unreal team and were just coming off a championship."

Due to the nature of the CIS schedule, and the heated competition for the starting role with his fellow recruits, Grenier may have to settle for less time than he's used to. While that's something he acknowledges and accepts, it won't keep him from fighting to establish himself as the team's number one goalie.

"The three of us here are quality goaltenders, and anyone of us could be the starter," Grenier says. "There's definitely competition between us, and all three of us are going to have to battle every night, play the best that we can, and then just see what happens."

"I'm something I'm worried about; it's just how it is," he says. "If it's your turn to play, then you have to be ready to play."

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Athletes shouldn't be looked to as role models



BRIAN
RAMCHANDRAR

Sports
Commentary

The NHL season has yet to begin, and already the league has drawn some negative publicity. The league's new "My NHL" advertising campaign has drawn the ire of Marsha Burk, chair of the US National Council of Women's Organizations. Burk, you may remember, stirred up controversy in 2002 over Augusta National Golf Club's refusal to accept a woman as a member, and eventually tried to portray Tiger Woods as a villain for refusing to take a side on the issue.

Now her beef lies with the NHL's new ad, which shows a hockey player in a candle-lit locker room being ceremoniously dressed by a female assistant. While I'm not about to question whether or not the ad objectifies women, I would like to question Burk's statement that "... the last image in that commercial is a young boy watching this, so he's clearly the customer they're after." From this quote, I'm led to believe that young boys everywhere may be corrupted upon seeing their supposed role models in less than wholesome positions. This, my friends, is what I have a problem with.

The whole concept of athletes as role models needs to be thrown out as quickly as possible. We need to stop propagating this myth and in turn lying to children. Now don't get me wrong—I'm all for lying to kids about things like Santa Claus, the Tooth Fairy and the Easter Bunny. However, when it comes to the ridiculous idea that athletes are morally above the rest of us and should be admired and revered, that's where I draw the line.

Case in point: an 18-year-old McGill University football player has withdrawn from the University after a rookie hazing ritual. The poor young pup was forced to get down on all fours with a ball gag in his mouth while his veteran teammates anal probed him with a broom stick. Seriously. Now, in an ideal world—and by ideal I mean a world ruled by Quentin Tarantino—a samurai sword-wielding Bruce Willis would have showed up on the scene, kicked some ass and stopped the shodown. Unfortunately for the young man at McGill, Tarantino only rules the silver screen. So in

the end, the poor pup's poop was poked, prodded and penetrated with a pretend pecker—alliteration has never been so painful.

Now, I realize the McGill football players are amateur athletes who rarely receive hero worship from kids. However, this type of initiation has undoubtedly happened in the past to all the professional athletes we watch everyday. Does that make them bad people? Not at all. It does, however, demonstrate that athletes, no matter how classy or respectable they appear on camera, are just as screwed up as the rest of us. They drink, smoke, gamble and like midgey porn. Only in their case, when it comes out in the public, it seems like a shock, and they're blamed for the demoralization of children everywhere.

So in the end, the poor pup's poop was poked, prodded and penetrated with a pretend pecker—alliteration has never been so painful.

Look at the Portland Trailblazers: the amount of well-documented incidents that they've been a part of would make Eddie Belfour and Chong show up at a 'Blazers' intervention. Even Chong got drunk off his ass, caused a disturbance and then offered a cop a billion dollar bribe; the list goes on. The point is that these guys are just doing what all of us have done at some point (well, except for maybe the billion dollar bribe), and therefore should be treated no differently.

In the 20+ years that I've been watching sports, only one athlete that I can remember has truly deserved to be called a role model. That man was Hulk Hogan. I say this in the past tense, because although the Hulkster told us to train hard, say our prayers and take our vitamins, Hogan's own "vitamins" turned out to be anabolic steroids. Once that was in the public eye, it was only a matter of time before he dyed his beard black, cheated his way to victory and started giving the Legdrop of Doom on everyone in sight. My point? If a manufactured superhuman star like the Hulkster can't be a role model for children, there's no chance in hell that today's ordinary Joe athletes can do it. We need to try and find something more realistic to tie to the kids about.

Nationals a great MLB story, unless you're an Expos fan



ADAM
HUSSEIN

Sports
Commentary

For a time, the Washington Nationals were the story of the year in baseball. They were great until late July, and then began to fade into oblivion for the season—which is exactly what happened to my summer.

With baseball now in its final stretch, the Washington Nationals, unlike those wonderful summer days, became a legitimate story again. Despite their minuscule salary (at least in comparison to that \$200 million team in the Bronx), the Nationals were able to contend for the wild card in the National League until late in the season.

As compelling as it would be for a team like Washington to make the playoffs, what's more interesting to me are the feelings that the jilted fans in Montréal have towards this turnaround and success.

The situation is like a relationship gone horribly wrong. If Expos fans are the boyfriend, he has just watched his now ex-girlfriend get herself together after a decade of being a complete wreck. Now she's being everything he thought she could be, but with someone else. And, to make it worse, this happened less than a year after he was forced to give up on her being the one for him.

Now is the time where the guy would be laying on a couch, talking to his shrink about how it all went wrong. Either that, or he'd be getting hammered with his friends and having an emotional chat about it with his equally as hammered best friend; whichever situation suits you better.

In their last season in Montréal, the Expos finished with 67 wins. In their first year in Washington, the Nationals hit 67 in the win column with over a month to go in the season. Had the Nationals been able to keep winning, you can only imagine how bitter-sweet it would be for an Expos fan to see the Nationals in the playoffs.

How would an Expos fan feel had Washington seen playoff baseball this season after Montréal fans were forced to suffer through the mediocrity the Expos have subjected

them to over the years? If you're an Expos fan who has followed the team to Washington, and continued to cheer for them, you may have some room for joy, as you see them succeed this year. However, if your love for the franchise died with the Expos, then it has to be impossible to watch the Nationals this season.

This situation is like a relationship gone horribly wrong. If Expos fans are the boyfriend, he has just watched his now ex-girlfriend get herself together after a decade of being a complete wreck. Now she's being everything he thought she could be, but with someone else.

Given the attendance record of the Expos, maybe I'm speaking for only a select group of people in Montréal, but as a sports fan, I'd be devastated to see the same thing happen to me. If the Oilers split town and won the Stanley Cup the following year, or even made the playoffs, I know there would be some distressed fans in the city of champions, myself included.

It didn't have to be all misery for the Expos and their fans, though. The last time Major League Baseball lost its season to a strike, the Expos were in line to be a playoff team, and a potential World Series champion. That success could possibly have sent the franchise in a different direction, and subsequently saved them from relocation.

The Washington Nationals are not going to win the World Series this season, and they will likely miss out on a playoff berth. Despite this, the Nationals should still finish with a better record than the Expos have seen since the mid-'90s, and they have the potential to continue this success and build on it in the near future.

Luckily for Montréal sports fans, an old flame has just gotten back to town, looking better than she has in years. Go ahead and feel free to reignite the spark with the team you so lovingly refer to as the Habs.

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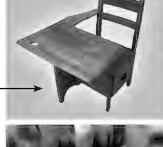
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The Last Deal returns for cross-Canada tour

The Last Deal

with *Removal and Circle the Wagons*
Friday, 30 September at 8pm
Siderock Café

MICHAEL LAROCQUE
Entertainment Editor

For most local bands, getting named one of the top acts in the city and having just perfected your lineup would mean taking advantage of the momentum and playing as often as possible. For Edmonton punk-rockers The Last Deal, it meant taking a near two-year hiatus after their new drummer becoming seriously ill.

"When he became ill we kind of needed a break anyways," says James Stewart, who, along with Matt Golden (bass) and the aforementioned drummer Steve Reid, make up the local trio, which was named the second best local group by SEE Magazine in 2001. "It really internalized the writing process a lot more. In the end, though, it all worked out for the best, I think."

And as for their music and local popularity, it was something that they were willing to put on hold while their bandmate recovered. As Stewart tells it, writing songs for The Last Deal was a process that the whole group—not just the singer—needed to contribute to, and throughout their break the band's sound had changed enough that any sort of musical backlog that had accumulated wouldn't have suited their current tastes, anyhow.

"Momentum wasn't that much of a concern of ours, frankly," says Stewart. "Getting buzz or whatever in your own city, how far can that take you? We're more concerned that we're happy with what we're making and our break really drove that point home to us. When he

recovered, it was basically a new band—we didn't even keep any of our old songs. We didn't want him to learn them; we wanted him to be integral to the writing process.

"We've matured a lot musically. It's a tumultuous time in any young man's life," jokes Stewart. "That 18-to-22 period, a lot happens. I'm glad that we're not making the same music we were when we were 18 or 19. It wouldn't represent us anymore."

"Booking this tour has been the most demoralizing, depressing experience. [I send] floods of e-mails and phone calls—like, 50, with only one response, and that will be just, 'No thanks, buddy.'"

JAMES STEWART, THE LAST DEAL

The process of writing songs—even the newer, more mature band that Stewart boasts—hasn't been a problem for the band. Having their self-titled debut EP recorded since last fall, the disc only reached shelves this July after mixing dragged out the production. Despite half-jokingly admitting that after this long they've gotten a little sick of the tunes, the band is looking forward to touring on the record, setting out on a cross-Canada trip next week, ending up at the Halifax Pop Explosion festival—a destination that has been somewhat difficult to reach.

After nearly missing being on the bill because



of a computer glitch that prevented them from being notified of their invitation, the band scrambled to get ready to make the trip, which involved arranging shows along their journey east. Despite being about to embark on a tour and having their EP in stores, the hard work cut out for any band has only just begun. The experience of arranging for this set of shows, for example, was one that Stewart doesn't relish.

"Booking a tour in Canada is immensely dif-

ficult," states Stewart. "It's insane. If you just to tour the prairies you'll be doing eight hour drives just to play the three cities that you can have shows in. Booking this tour has been the most demoralizing, depressing experience. [I send] floods of e-mails and phone calls—like, 50, with only one response, and that will be just, 'No thanks, buddy.' There are good people out there, though. You just have to be patient and connect with them."

Ribbon just doesn't cut it

Ribbon

Written, directed by and starring Patricia Darbasie
22 September–1 October at 8pm
Timmins Centre

AMANDA ASH
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Like any good pastime, going to the theatre gives us a delightful opportunity to ditch our boring lives for an hour or two, and with the up-close and personal atmosphere of a theatre, we can finally plunge ourselves into another realm populated by fairies and adventurous swashbucklers.

And the fact is, when it comes to arranging the setting of the play, the more exotic and distant the place of action, the better chance you have of capturing a listless audience. But when you go and set a play in the middle of the godforsaken prairies—as in the case of Patricia Darbasie's *Ribbon*—you can guarantee some poor enervated souls will want to stab themselves through the heart with the pitchfork prop lying onstage.

Ribbon, Studio Theatre's season opener, is a nostalgic story set in the bleak stretches of the flat Alberta prairie. Patricia Darbasie, an MFA directing student, undertakes the roles of writer, director and sole actress in the play. Considering the entire production is completely organized by this ambitious lady, one can respect the amount of work that has been put into it. Nonetheless, the problem with taking so much upon oneself results in the lack of an outside and critical eye needed to weed out misguided decisions.

The play centres on Paula and her attempt to reconstruct the past of her great-grandmother, Lilly (also played by Darbasie). During the attempt to clean out her Nana's old farmhouse, Paula finds some interesting keepsakes that make her question what growing up in rural Alberta was like.

Throughout the play, Lilly—who, in some sort of spiritual form, oversees this purge of her home—retells the stories behind each one of the valuables that Paula inherits. The play shifts

from Paula grumbling and fabricating imaginative stories, to Lilly, who plainly states the facts of her past. After Paula finds her childhood ribbon in the junk, she comes to the conclusion that although we have individual memories, sometimes there are cultural memories shared by many.

Script-wise, Darbasie's *Ribbon* takes an interesting angle by focusing on the memories of early black pioneers in Alberta. Unlike the ever-present recounting of Southern American black history, we get a glimpse of what life must have been like for those settling in Canada. Yet, since plays with this sort of historical memory theme are so common, Darbasie's *Ribbon* fails to escape the cathartic category of historical rambling. Regrettably, the script, both bland and colourless, is no fruit of intellectual metaphors and emotion.

On a more directorial note, the choice to run the play without an intermission is always a tricky decision. What Darbasie seems to be striving for is an unwavering illusion—she wants her audience to be fully engrossed with the play, and an intermission would only break the realism. But, unfortunately, since the script itself is about as climactic as a bushel of wheat, the lack of leg-stretching time leaves you counting down the minutes on your watch, wondering if you might perhaps catch the ending of *The OC*.

It's evident, though, that Darbasie has developed both of her characters carefully and thoughtfully within the script. However, with the task of writing and directing already on her plate, characterization struggles behind. Throughout the entire show, Darbasie's character shifts aren't clearly defined, which leaves the audience confused as hell about who's speaking.

Although Darbasie intends on drawing a more unique and Canadian perspective of black settlers in Alberta, there is just no easy way to make the prairies any less boring than they already are. Perhaps one day, when the world is paved over with concrete and spaceships roam the sky, the smell of cow manure and the sight of canola crops will become amazingly interesting.



KATIE THEOBALD

EVEN THE STAR BROUGHT A BOOK Despite a trip to the early 1900's, *Ribbon* isn't that interesting.

Corpse Bride dead on arrival

The Corpse Bride

Directed by Tim Burton
Starring Johnny Depp, Helena Bonham Carter, Emily Watson
Now Playing

JESSICA WARREN
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Incestuous relationships seem to be the forte of the more bizarre among us—Edgar Allan Poe married his first cousin, and Charles Darwin contributed to the human race, ironically, by procreating with his own cousin. Tim Burton's new movie, *The Corpse Bride*, is the child of union that has formed between the movie-making family of Tim Burton, Johnny Depp and Helena Bonham Carter. Before now, any combination of this partnership has generally created beautiful, well-formed movies like *Edward Scissorhands* and *Big Fish*. This time, however, the creative juices seem to have dried up, leaving *The Corpse Bride* standing on half-baked puns and the blue-tinted lighting that is ever-present in the film.

The movie opens with images of what can only be described as Tim Burton-esque architecture. Oddly shaped houses loom over people who are themselves incredibly asymmetrical. Victorian carriages career over unnaturally steep hills, and generally everything looks quite awkward and gloomy.

Sure, it's what we expect from Tim Burton, but what is lacking in this case is the story. While purporting to be an eerie tale featuring death and decomposition as a backdrop to a mistaken marriage, Burton disappoints with a traditional and morally upstanding love story which stumbles along the exaggerated set without ever finding its place.

Johnny Depp voices Victor, a sticky



young man and a victim of an arranged marriage propagated from his parents' wish to be more established in society. Victoria (Emily Watson), is the daughter of penniless aristocrats who are in desperate need of Victor's parents' money. The young betrothed meet and fall instantly in love, but at their wedding rehearsal, Victor forgets his vows and is told there will be no wedding until he can memorize them. Victor goes for a walk and practices his vows, eventually getting them all right and placing his ring on a "branch" sticking out of the ground. Thus begins the union of Victor and his dead bride, who is, as it turns out, incredibly pleasant, and holds the highest hopes for their marriage.

Unfortunately, the advertising buildup to *The Corpse Bride* contained much more than the film could actually hope to deliver. Perhaps some comedy would have been able to save this film, but much of what Burton offers are flaccid jokes—such as a skeleton declaring that he always liked "a girl with a little meat on her bones"—with very little laugh-out-loud humour

appearing in the movie. The soundtrack is also a bit of a wreck; composer Danny Elfman clearly didn't know what he was trying to accomplish with it. There is wonderfully atmospheric background music throughout most of the movie, but, unfortunately, it also contains four harsh, nearly wine-inducing songs that only serve to briefly lighten the blue-hued world up a bit. Sure, there was blaring saxophone and skeletons using their own head's as bongos, but they were merely pointless asides in an already struggling story.

The Corpse Bride has been so hyped—and looks enough like *The Nightmare Before Christmas*—that people will go to it, but it won't impress a Friday night date. The film has the aftertaste of creative thinking, but the product itself is lacking. Sure, it's not the most terrible thing to hit theatres as of late, and it surely could be a lot worse, but everyone who is going to this movie hoping for a hit is better off saving their \$13 for their next date with their cousin.

Wil set to break strings for Sidetrack show

Wil

with Strada and Krista Hartman
Wednesday, 28 September at 8pm
Sidetrack Cafe

BILL RADFORD
Arts & Entertainment Writer

For a musician who goes by only one name, Wil is surprisingly well-known, even if it's for beating the shit out of his guitar on stage. He tours only with his drummer, Pat Steward, and while a two-musician lineup might suggest to some listeners a minimalist sound, his website (not surprisingly "breakstrings.com"), is filled with testimonials from audience members captivated by the deluge of sound emanating from the set of drums and a single—although heavily abused—guitar.

Wil's first full-length, *Both Hands*, was independently released in 2002 before being re-released through Capitol/EMI in 2004 after garnering critical reviews. Having finished writing the songs for his follow-up album and aiming to begin recording it this fall, Wil is hoping that his sophomore album will capture the essence of his live shows, with some extra instrumentation added to sweeten the deal.

It's not going to be a live record," states Wil. "There aren't going to be people clapping between the songs. To me, that's something you do once you've already released a few records and have reached a certain amount of success. Me and Pat are just gonna play the songs straight through and take the



best cuts.

"Ideally, I'd love to record it in like, a church, or something," says Wil, regarding the live sound he is striving to capture. Once they have their own parts recorded, they plan to go back to add the extra sounds, "like maybe a cello."

Unlike some singer-songwriters, Wil has had several tracks on the new CD co-written. "Songwriting takes patience," says Wil, a virtue he readily admits he lacks. Through his label, Wil has been able to meet many potential collaborators, but the most important thing to him is an intangible quality; that the songwriters he works with are "good people."

"It's not about what you can do for me; it's about working with good people. You could be the best songwriter in the world, but if you [aren't a good person], I'm not interested," says Wil. It's an approach to songwriting he's been praised for, but one that

he sees as naturally obvious. "I don't think songwriting should be a sterile, laboratory process."

Despite recent focus on his upcoming album, Wil's passion remains playing live. When asked about his drummer, Pat Steward, Wil simply laughs and says "he's a freak," which is perhaps an apt way to describe the man who complements and mirrors Wil's enthusiasm and has, during solos, been known to drop his drums and use his hands on the drums and cymbals.

Having opened for musicians ranging from Billy Idol to Jim Cuddy, it seems that Wil's music is of the brand that lets him play with just about anyone. Despite the apparent multi-genre appeal of his music, Wil admits that he's got to approach each show fresh.

"Every show is different," he concedes. "But you just gotta get up and give 'er."

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IT'S TOTALLY SOMETHING, ALRIGHT The two-handed, motion-sensitive controller has raised eyebrows with gamers.

Point-counterpoint: Nintendo's new controller

Motion-sensor and design are dumb You're dumb, we need something new



DANIEL
KASZOR

Point



JAKE
TROUTON

Counterpoint

Nintendo has never been a company to play it safe, and has always been willing to take a risk on new hardware. Some of those risks have had some fairly amazing results: the original d-pad that all modern controllers now use or emulate, the introduction of analogue sticks to highlight game control, and hell, even the hokey touch screen on their new portable console isn't half bad. However, for each of those achievements there has been an equal hardware item that's been a piece of crap, most recently the overly complicated "connectivity" between the Gameboy and the Gamecube in lieu of online games, but going back even further with the N64 sticking to overpriced cartridges instead of switching to a disc-based medium, and the terrible black and red monstrosity that was the Virtualboy. Unfortunately, I have to say that Nintendo's recently announced controller for its new "Revolution" console falls soundly in the second camp.

Firstly, who wants to play videogames with a remote control? For a company who championed ergonomics with its last two controllers, you would expect something that wouldn't induce flashbacks from *Playing Games with Peter Hill*. While I do like the idea of being able to play some sort of slow-paced game while eating a sandwich, anything that requires even the smallest quick reaction needs two hands. The fact that you need to plug in a strange nunchuck-style add-on to even have analogue support—a feature practically necessary for all 3D games—shows the short-sightedness of the entire thing.

This, of course, doesn't even touch on the most-hyped aspect of the controller, its ability to track motions on the television screen. Think about it for a second: you're holding this new motion stick, playing the newest *Legend of Zelda* game, and a sword fight begins. Instead of pushing buttons to make Link swing his sword, you're swinging your controller around. Sounds pretty cool, except for the fact that you'll be a totally spasmoid swinging his arms around and wondering when video games became so much goddamn work.

Additionally, the fact that most of the games on the new system will most likely be forced to use the motion-tracking software—either by internal mandate from Nintendo, or simply because of the overall design of the controller—actually limits game design space instead of expanding it. With this controller, Nintendo is saying that it doesn't want regular games on its system anymore; that, if you want to play a game in a normal genre—many of which Nintendo invented—you have to buy another system.

And that is really the crux of it, the Nintendo fanboys like Jake who are championing this new controller, who have never owned something as garish as an Xbox or a PlayStation, are going to have to pony up for some sort of alternate system if they ever get tired of the painting and arm swinging games that are sure to become the staple of Nintendo's repertoire.

The reaction to the Revolution's controller seems to be fairly consistent: gamers who've just seen pictures of the controller think it's crazy; those who've actually used it think it's brilliant.

I think I know which group I'm more inclined to side with. From what I've seen, no one who's tested the new controller has had anything but praise for it. And while I haven't yet had the pleasure of trying it out myself, it's not hard to see why: it looks to be far and away the most versatile and promising game controller ever made. As the Gamecube website cubeign.com said after playing a series of demos with the controller, "Imagine sticking your hand into a virtual box and having your TV understand how it's moving in there."

Many of the controller's detractors seem to be focused on its appearance. Well, yes, Dan, it does look like a remote control (albeit a super-awesome, Apple-designed remote control). The question, though, shouldn't be how it looks, but how it plays—and it certainly doesn't play like a remote control. Think more along the lines of a 3D mouse, except that it can sense rotation, too, and with its d-pad, it's essentially has six easy-to-access buttons.

The thing may look weird, but that's good: the traditional video game controller is tired and needed to change. Since the jump to 3D in the '90s, the only substantive changes to game play have come from adding more buttons and sticks to the controllers. That makes the modern controller versatile for those who've grown up with video games, but it's also quite complicated and unintuitive. The Revolution hasn't completely changed that—it's certainly no hidecluck—but it does give players the ability to, say, actually pick up and manipulate an object with just a twist of the wrist, rather than having to struggle with a pair of joysticks.

Many of the complaints about the controller are knee-jerk and silly. Players won't have to flail around the room (although they could if they want to); the controller's sensitive enough that it's fully functional with just a moving arm. If you ever do get tired, well, that's what a pause button is for. And between the main controller and the likely attachments (such as the analog stick that will come standard), all current game genres will be playable, but they'll be playable in completely different ways—imagine actually swinging Link's sword, or throwing the game-winning touchdown, or even just guiding a paper airplane through rings.

There is something to be said for current games, to be sure, but there's no reason to suspect that Nintendo will keep games like that off of the Revolution. A standard controller shell will be available as an attachment, and since one of the system's big selling points will be the ability to play older Nintendo games, use of the motion-sensor technology will hardly be mandatory.

It should certainly be encouraged, though. They may be bigger and prettier, but video games haven't fundamentally changed in a decade, and it's about time that someone tried to change that. Sure, a lot of gamers will try to cling to old styles like bulky, 4000-button security blankets, but some of us are ready for something new.

Exils soundtrack overcomes lack of characterization

Exils

Directed by Tony Gatlif
Starring Romain Duris, Lubna Azabal,
Leïla Makhlouf, Habib Cheik
and Zouhir Gacem
30 September–2 October at 7pm
Metro Cinema

EDMON ROTEAU
Arts & Entertainment Writer

It's an oft-seen theme in Western films to have a main character that has to brave a journey of struggle and adversity in order to fulfill the dream of a better life in a new country. Throughout the 20th century, many films bombarded this particular mindset with images of immigrants struggling to survive after a long journey to a new and foreign place.

Tony Gatlif's *Exils*, however, takes the opposite approach. Rather than have the characters migrate to a country that can provide better economic prosperity, the characters are more enchanted about returning to the country of their ancestors. The plot's premise is orientated around a statement Gatlif makes about the film: "those who have left us always come back to us."

Accordingly, *Exils* is a story about one such journey—a trip that entails elements of self-discovery, identity, culture and music. It initially begins in the cramped, one-bedroom apartment of Zano (Romain Duris), a young man of Algerian descent who feels repressed and disenchanted with the life he is living in Paris. Turning to his girlfriend, Naïma (Lubna Azabal), he convinces her to return to Algeria, and soon after, the two lovers begin the trip to their ancestral homeland.

Zano and Naïma's journey is not one without hardship. With apparently little money and lacking a consistent mode of transportation, the two often end up venturing to Algeria on foot. Throughout their journey, they encounter illegal migrant workers, Gypsies and rural peasants, all while enduring the reality of living in slums, camping out in forests, hailing in public fountains and doing manual labour to finance their voyage.

The film's soundtrack is one of the film's most notable features, with the music being set in a manner that reflects the importance and emotion of any given scene, an effect only occasionally captured with much success in recent films.

Despite the obvious plot of *Exils*, what's lacking in the film's storyline are any backstories about the characters themselves. Throughout the entire film, Zano and Naïma are like strangers on the street—we know that they are young French-Algerians wanting to return to Algeria, but besides little tidbits about their family histories, the audience doesn't learn anything else about their backgrounds, particularly why they initially decide to travel via foot and live in poverty-like



conditions and destitution as they hitchhike back to their homeland. We don't know whether or not Zano and Naïma are poor, adventurous, or just plain foolish. The film's plot lacks character development, and this trend is seen with other characters throughout the rest of the film.

The film's soundtrack is one of the film's most notable features, with the music being set in a manner that reflects the importance and emotion of any given scene, an effect only occasionally captured with much success in recent films. The soundtrack of *Exils* is rife with European techno and trance music, and is timed per-

fectly to reflect the varying experiences of Zano and Naïma throughout their excursion.

As Zano and Naïma venture closer to Algeria, the music gradually sheds its Western European flavour in favour of a more ethnic-sounding tune and style of traditional Mediterranean/North African music. One moment that is especially indicative of this theme is when the two travel to Andalusia, where they experience a club of youths imbued with the culture of flamenco dance and music. When they finally arrive in Algeria, Zano and Naïma become entranced by the possessive and charismatic music generated

by the more traditional instruments native to the region itself.

At heart, however, *Exils* is a story of self-discovery. Whether it's finding the birthplace of your family's ancestors for the very first time, learning a new language or exploring a new culture and religion—one that may be familiar to first-generation immigrants, yet foreign to their own children—*Exils* is both a multi-generational and cross-cultural film. It's a story that symbolizes the age-old dilemma of youth's struggle to find an identity—and how the solution to this problem can be, for some people, discovering your cultural roots.

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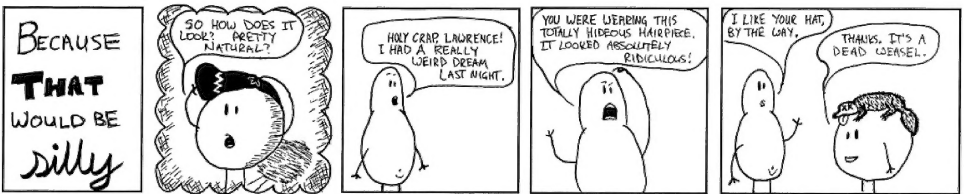
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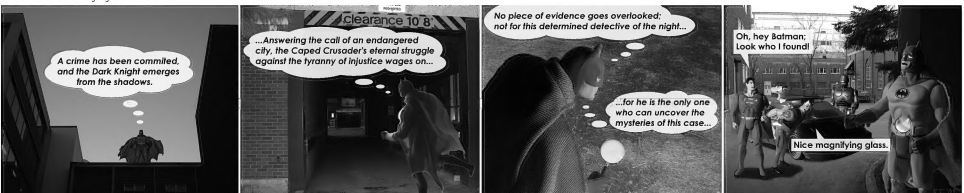
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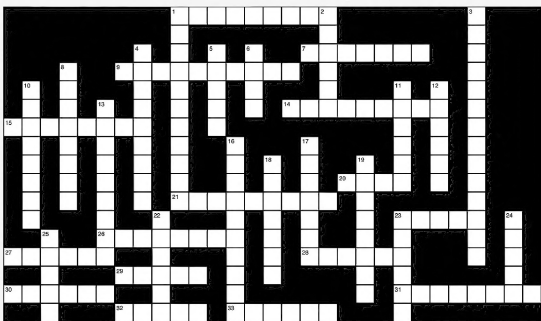


BRUCE & DICK by Ryan Tomiko



CROSSWORD

The Spaceword: compiled by Scott C. Bourgeois. The Crossword runs on most Tuesdays with the answer available at www.gatewayualberta.ca



Across

1. The explosive death of a star.
7. The attractive force between all masses in the universe.
9. The point in its orbit where a planet is closest to the sun.
14. A region of space that has so much mass that nothing can escape its gravitational pull.
15. The planets in our solar system who have an orbit around the sun greater than the Earth.
20. The dust and gas surrounding an active comet's nucleus.
21. Any body that orbits around a

planet.

23. The smallest planet in our solar system.
26. The point in its orbit where a planet is farthest from the sun.
27. A neutron star that emits radio waves which pulse on and off.
28. A glowing cloud of gas in interstellar space.
29. The spherical structure at the center of a galaxy comprised of old stars, gas and dust.
30. The brightest star in the night sky.
31. The name of our galaxy.

32. The third planet from our sun.
33. The sixth planet from our sun.

Down

1. The center of our galaxy is in the direction of this constellation.
2. The glow in a planet's atmosphere caused by the interaction of the planet's magnetic field and charged solar particles.
3. The term applied to any equatorial satellite with an orbital velocity equal to the rotation of the planet. Basically, the satellite would appear motionless in the sky.
4. A rock of extraterrestrial origin,

found on the Earth, with its four's and fifth letters transposed.

5. The planet named after the Roman goddess of love.
6. The visible surface of the sun (or any heavenly body) projected against the sky.
8. A medium-sized rocky object orbiting the sun.
10. A fundamental particle supposedly produced in massive numbers by the nuclear reactions in stars.
11. The outermost layer of a solar atmosphere.
12. A unit of absolute temperature.
13. The distance traveled by light in a year
16. Polish astronomer who forwarded the theory that the Earth and other bodies orbited the sun.
17. This kind of star is the strongest magnetic force in the universe.
18. Italian physicist and astronomer and the first to use a telescope to study space.
19. American astronomer who discovered Pluto.
22. German astronomer and mathematician who formulated the three laws of planetary movement.
23. Any gas that contains ions and electrons.
24. The dark central region of a sunspot.
25. A sudden eruption on the solar disk, emitting radiation and particles.



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We found a pile of software in the EIC's office this morning which include titles such as: *Microsoft Student 2006*, *Microsoft Money 2006* (Canadian Edition) and *Microsoft Digital Image 2006*. Since we're all Steve Job's bitches here at the world Gateway headquarters, these are obviously of no use to us. The logical solution: contest giveaway!

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USAA Advocacy Department (Campus Campaigns) presents The Question is Sustainability? on Wednesday 28 September. Events will run from noon till 7pm in various sites on campus including Quad, Dewey's and Education. This year the USAA is organizing weekly events that will highlight the different ways that you can become politically active. These events will provide you the opportunity to learn more about the different issues we all face and the tools that will enable you to make a difference in academics and the community. See the website for all event details. For more information, please contact Brett Coley at 492-4241 or visit www.usualberta.ca/student_government/advocacy/events.

Yan Xin Life Science and Technology


Club presents How to improve your health condition with complementary and alternative medicine on Friday, 30 September from 7pm-8:30pm in Room 254 of the Education Building. This is a lecture on how to evaluate and improve your health condition. It is presented by Dr. Steven X. Xian, the vice-president of Canadian Institute of Complementary and Alternative Medicine Research. For more information, you may also attend his event at University Acupuncture and Herbal Therapy Center at 606 College Plaza 4pm-8pm on 2 October, 2005. For more information, please contact Shusheng Tai at 432-5177.

EO7 is a service provided for Registered Student Groups and University Departments only. EO7 does not publish events that are on-going or not open to the public. We only accept free events. The Gateway reserves all right to edit all entries for length and clarity. All submissions must be made online. To place an entry in EO7, please go to www.gatewayualberta.ca/bkbb.

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